(b) The complaints are related to irregularities in implementation of the schemes and charges of corruption against the implementing authorities.

(c) and (d) The complaints have been forwarded to the State Governments concerned for investigation and appropriate action as the schemes under the programme are being implemented by them.

Energy producing sectors

1877. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether recognizing the crucial role energy plays in propelling the economy into a higher growth path in the Eleventh Plan, the Planning Comission has underlined the need to assess the State of technology and the potentials to scale up efficiency in all energy producing public sector units;

(b) whether according to the Commission, technology upgradation in energy producing sector remains crucial for two specific reasons, one the availability and cost of energy would be a critical constraint on reaching our growth targets; and

(c) if so, to what extent Government has agreed to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, sir.

(c) In reply to the letter of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission to all the Energy Ministries drawing their attention to the need to assess state of the technology in major energy producing public sector units under their control, different energy Ministries have asked respective public sector units to assess independently the level of technology with which they operate so that they upgrade and remain at the forefront of technology absorption and application in order to meet the goal of the Eleventh Plan and beyond.

Rise in number of poor people

1878. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eleventh Five Year Plan document has shown that in 5 States namely Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Uttrakhand and Orissa the number of poor people has been rising although overall poverty has reportedly fallen from 44 per cent to 27.5 per cent;

(b) whether in Orissa the poverty statistics for 1983 were 1.54 crore whereas in 2004 the figures show 1.78 crore and similarly in Maharashtra the rise is from 2.9 crore to 3.17 crore, etc;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps Government has taken so far to reduce number of poor people in above States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) The Eleventh Five Year Plan document has not been finalised.